

# Claytonia



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## NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SPRING 1990

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I would like to thank Clementine Moore and all who helped to make 1989 a most enjoyable and fruitful year for our Arkansas Native Plant Society.

Our elected secretary Glynis Hamlin, moved out of state and a new secretary, Betty Speairs, of Mena was approved at the board meeting in January.

Elizabeth Fulton, in Little Rock has agreed to represent the Native Plant Society with the Arkansas Conservation Coalition another year and to report on their activities.

Dr. Eric Sundell in Monticello has agreed to chair a membership committee to record our membership's names, addresses, and phone numbers, as an aid to our treasurer and editor.

Many of our members have shown an interest in the Arkansas Roadside Wildflower Program; therefore, I have asked Dr. Don Culwell to head a committee or workshop to assist our members in this endeavor.

Carl Hunter was asked to research a color brochure for the Arkansas Native Plant Society, and to report to the membership at the spring meeting.

The Arkansas State Parks Division is seeking comments on the Arkansas Arboretum at Pinnacle Mountain State Park from several of our members. I have asked Carl Amason to represent the A.N.P.S. in this endeavor.

The Carl R. Amason Conservation Award was awarded to Jane Stern at the fall meeting of 1989. We were saddened, however, to learn that Jane Stern passed away this winter.

The executive committee recommended that the fall meeting be held in Eureka Springs on Nov. 2,3, and 4. Sue Clark has researched the accommodations and has found them satisfactory.

Bruce Ewing President

### SPECIAL VOTE

AT OUR SPRING MEETING, THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT WILL BE INFORMED AND ASKED TO VOTE ON A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD HAVE A.N.P.S. DONATE TOWARD HELPING FINANCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PINNACLE MOUNTAIN ARBORETUM IN WEST PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS. THIS PROPOSAL COULD POSSIBLY INVOLVE A DISCUSSION OF OUR BY-LAW INTENT IN REGARD TO DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT MONIES.

### SPRING FIELD TRIPS

If you are planning on going on a field trip PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE contact the leader so they will know about how many to expect. There have been times, as you know, that perhaps only one or two people would show up. I don't think it has happened this past year, but it has in the past. Even if it is the day of the field trip, it would help the leader to know if you are coming or if you have to cancel.

- April 21: Meet at the courthouse at Lewisville, AR, 10:00 a.m. to see Halesia diptera, two-winged silver bell, rediscovered after the absence of a confirmed report since 1882. Also see Sebastian bush and blue hawthorne. Bring a sack lunch. Led by Ray Erickson, 921-4950.
- May 5: Meadowbrook Project, Fox, Arkansas. Meet at 10:00 at Rural Special School parking lot, Fox, Arkansas. It is on the west side of Highway 263, pass the turnoff to Meadowbrook. We will leave most of the cars here so there won't be so many going down to Meadowbrook. Bring a sack lunch. They do have drinks at the facility. They need to have an approximate count about a week before, so please contact Sue Clark, 329-8107 if you are going to be able to go, and for further information.
- May 12: Meet at Wal-Mart parking lot, Mena, at 10:00 a.m. Led by Bruce and Lana Ewing. Bring a sack lunch. Call 394-4666.
- June 9: Carl Amason's annual spring field trip in the Calion vicinity. Meet at Carl's house at 9:30. Turn left off of Highway 167 at Stapler's Store, go to County Road 44 (about half a mile), turn right on County Road 44, go 1 1/4 mile south. Be sure and bring your lunch. Carl's number is 748-2362.

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### FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 6, 1990

<u>FUND</u>	<u>BAL. 1/21/89</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BAL. 1/6/90</u>
1. DWIGHT MOORE	\$ 883.20	\$100.00	\$1105.52
2. A. McWILLIAMS, 3 ACCTS.	4034.79	550.00	5419.22
3. DELZEE DeMAREE	2251.33	570.00	1995.49
4. OPERATING, 2 ACCTS.	3967.29	805.52	3948.89

### RECENT EXPENDITURES:

FALL MEETING EXPENSE	\$ 86.51
ARKANSAS NATURAL HERITAGE	200.00
JET LETTER	519.01

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CHAD GRAY



## The Status of the South Arkansas Arboretum

The first arboretum in Arkansas was set up in the El Dorado Public School District FROM 1967 to July 1970 under the vision of James Riley, El Dorado School teacher of science with the direction of Dr. Dwight Moore. It was named the South Arkansas Arboretum. It consisted of slightly more than 17 acres and was adjacent to the El Dorado High School on the west side of town. The site was a lovely but irregular parcel of land with high ground of white oaks, hickories and pines with slopes where native American beeches had grown and some low drains that remain quite wet all summer in spite of no permanent running water. In the lowlands were some overcup oaks, willows and the only native palm, Sabal minor was represented by one or two specimens. In cleaning out the under-brush so the flowering dogwoods and other desirable understory plants could grow, some naturally occurring Arkansas oaks (Quercus arkansana) were found and quite a colony of dwarf pawpaw (Asimina parviflora) was in a section, and several Cherokee bean or mamou (Erythrina herbacea) were on a lightly shaded slope. In fact, it was an excellent site for the beginnings of a small arboretum. A network of asphalted roadway and paths and some treated-wood bridges and two small ponds were built. Dr. and Mrs. Moore (Clemmy) went merrily about gathering many native species such as sugar maples, bur oaks, and several other things from the Ozark Mountain region, some native wild Azaleas (Rhododendron canescens), Nuttall's oaks, chalk maples, were gathered from the surrounding country side. Various plant organizations contributed to the selections of several large Camellia japonica beds and azaleas were planted around all over the place to create community interest in the beauty of the arboretum. As a matter of fact, it had some elements of a botanical garden. Dr. Moore had contacts in Wooster, Ohio, where an established arboretum was set up, and he returned with a dawn redwood, some Chinese chestnuts and hybrids of Chinese Chestnut with the American chestnuts.

Then the Arboretum went into a state of unuse-misuse, disrepair and vandals worked their deeds. Several attempts were made to clean up the litter but the place was just too large and litter too deep to be effective. Jodie Mahony, the Representative from El Dorado had lingering mental pictures of the way it was in its prime and about 1987, he pushed and obtained a grant for University of South Arkansas, Magnolia and its El Dorado Branch to study the need of such an urban area for educational, recreational, and just plain aesthetical needs under the direction of Dr. James Lovell with graduate students Marsha C. Rowe and Ken Ball.

The summer of 1989 was spent by myself, Miss Rowe and Mr. Ball in enumerating the species and their numbers within the arboretum. There is a wealth of plant material there and the items called previously are growing well in spite of circumstances. More work has been done on the fence row, cutting out much of the rank undergrowth and thick vines and getting ready for the next venture in getting the arboretum back to a place of beauty. There is talk at this time that the Arkansas State Parks is to maintain the place while the University of South Arkansas is to regulate and care for it. The mission, as proposed by Dr. Lovell, is to preserve the native, rare, and economically important flora of the Delta and Coastal Plain for the people to view, study, photograph, browse and enjoy. The goals are to provide an educational facility and recreational site inside a city and to enhance the arboretum with beauty and

species diversity. There is a movement to get total community interests and involvement in the arboretum, something that didn't have twenty years ago because the people didn't seem to realize the importance and value of an arboretum. As an educational devise, it has no substitute. In all, it is a noble monument to the vision of James Riley, and to the educational purposes of Dr. Dwight Moore and to the later day people such as Jodie Mahony, Dr. Lovell and graduate students Miss Rowe and Mr. Ball who realize the real need of such an educational and recreational facility.

by: Carl Amason

#### A Memorial for Jane Stern

Jane Stern died on Saturday, December 16, 1989 and in her passing all of nature has lost a friend, a spokesperson, and an active environmentalist and enthusiastic member. In short, she was a very knowledgeable person, who knew facts, figures, plants, birds, streams, the air, and people. She was concerned about so many things. Her affiliations with environmental organizations must have included all facets of nature; she showed a brilliance in all of them. She won honors from many organizations and she earned each and every one of them. The Arkansas Native Plant Society gave her its Carl R. Amason Conservation Award at its fall meeting in Mountain View, but she was unable to be there. Plans were to have some public announcement of the presentation, but the situation at the time prevented it from happening.

marlaThe choice of Jane Stern by the committee was well chosen. In the last year she was instrumental in getting before botanical science a species of Mesphilus for North America which she discovered about twenty years ago in the Konecny Prairie. She is responsible for setting up the Red-cockaded Woodpecker Project for the Arkansas Audubon Society. In one of the published newspaper memorials it was mentioned that she frequently picked up litter at Byrd Lake, one of her favorite natural areas in the Pine Bluff area. How many of us are so dedicated as to pick up litter at an otherwise beautiful spot? That certainly does test the conviction of a total environmentalist. In all her activities she had backing from a host of friends and in the final end, she was certainly helped by her family, consisting of Dr. Howard Stern, son Arthur Stern and daughter, Ellen Stern. And Jane has worked long and hard for plants, birds, other animals, good streams and quality water, clean air, and just as importantly, all of mankind. She will be missed for the simple reason she cannot be replaced.

by: Carl Amason



SPRING GENERAL MEETING

A SPECTACULAR WEEKEND OF BOTANIZING AND FELLOWSHIP

CAMDEN, ARKANSAS    APRIL 27-29, 1990

Friday, April 27

- 3 to 7 p.m.            Registration Open, Cope's Cajun Kitchen  
Registration fee - \$2.00 (Also taking dues!)  
Conversation, coffee, & cookies available
- 4:00 p.m.            Early Arrival's Field Trip (route to be announced)
- 7:00 p.m.            Dinner - Cope's Cajun Kitchen  
Awards and Announcements  
Program - "Propagation of Native Plants"  
Mr. David Pittman, Pittman's Gardens  
Business Session

Saturday, April 28

- 8:00 a.m.            Field Trips Departing American Family Inn parking lot to  
(1) Indian Mound  
(2) Sand Hill Area  
(3) South Camden
- 12:00 p.m.           Lunch - your choice
- 1:30 p.m.            Field Trips - Repeat of morning routes on demand
- 4:30 p.m.            Executive Board Meeting
- 6:30 p.m.            Dinner - Cope's Cajun Kitchen  
More Announcements and Awards  
Program - To Be Announced

Sunday, April 29

- 8 to 9 a.m.           Yard Tour, coffee & rolls at Thera Lou Adams' home
- 9:00 a.m.            Field Trip - Poison Springs Trail
- 11:30 a.m.           Meeting adjourned

Please confirm your attendance by April 23, 1990, so that accurate number of attendants may be made for banquet preparations. Confirmations may be sent or telephoned to

Mrs. Thera Lou Adams  
Rt. 1 Box 871  
Camden, AR 71701  
(501) 836-5221

\*\*\*Both evening meals will cost \$8.14 each - tax, tip & beverage included.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

American Family Inn - Cope's Cajun Kitchen (and meeting room)  
Hwy 7 South & Goodgame St.

(501) 231-6661

Double or King, \$27.00 a night (Kitchenettes available also)

When reserving rooms, please identify yourself with the ANPS.

Rates are for any number of occupants.

#### Other Camden Accommodations Nearby:

Days Inn

942 Adams Ave. (Hwy 7 South)

1-800-325-2525 or 836-9372

Double or King, \$34.00 for two or more occupants

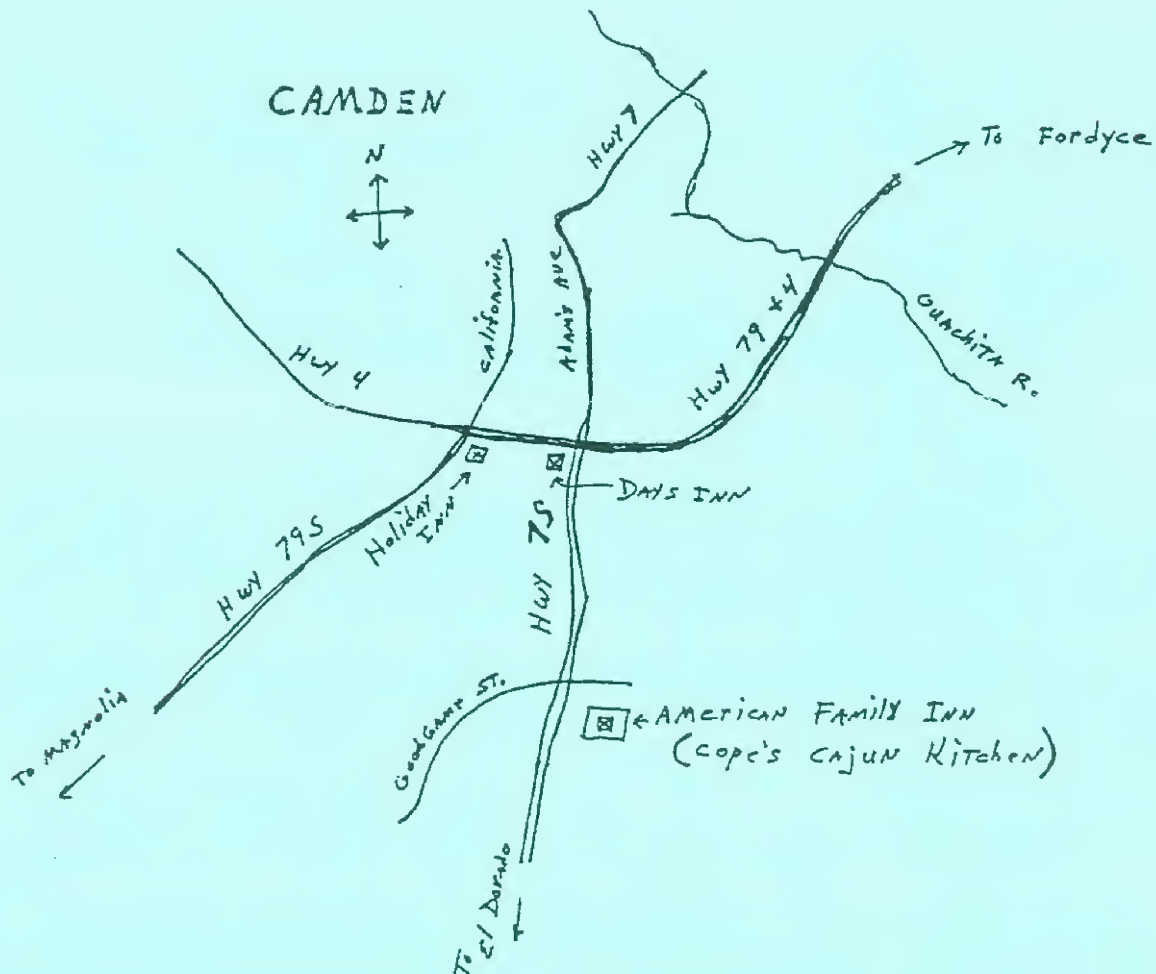
Holiday Inn of Camden

950 California (Hwy 79 South)

836-8822

Single occupancy, \$35.00 (\$5.00 additional per person)

King, \$40.00



## ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Arkansas Native Plant Society was organized September 20, 1980, in Mena, Arkansas, with the purpose of promoting the preservation, conservation, study, and enjoyment of the wild plants and vegetation of Arkansas. Membership is open to anyone interested enough in wildflowers, ferns, weeds, and trees to pay annual dues. Among our members are both professional and amateur botanists of all ages from throughout the state, who are united by an appreciation of nature and who seem to enjoy each other's company enormously.

The Society has two general meetings each, in spring and fall. Field trips to areas of unusual botanical interest are also scheduled throughout the year. The newsletter, Claytonia, is issued at least twice yearly, and a directory of members is published periodically. In addition, ANPS supports several scholarship and award funds for botanical endeavors relating to Arkansas plants.

There are four categories for membership:

_____	\$ 5	Regular membership
_____	\$10	Supporting Membership
_____	\$20	Contributing Membership
_____	\$100	Life Membership

If you would like to join the Arkansas Native Plant Society and begin receiving our newsletter, please provide the required information below, check a membership category and send this sheet with the appropriate dues to:

Fred Greenwood, Treasurer  
Arkansas Native Plant Society  
Route 3, Box 333 - A  
Little Rock, AR 72211

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

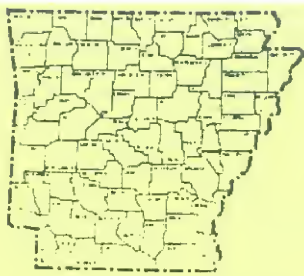
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# Claytonia



## NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FALL, 1990

### FROM THE PRESIDENT: Bruce Ewing

Welcome to the Native Plant Society. The purpose of our Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and the study of the wild plants and vegetation of Arkansas; the education of the public to the value of the native flora and its habitat; and the publication of related information.

In order to achieve these goals, membership fees are charged:

- \$5.00 for General Membership, of which \$5.00 goes to the general fund to pay for newsletters, etc.
- \$10.00 for Supporting Membership, of which \$5.00 goes to the general fund and \$5.00 goes to the Dwight Moore account.
- \$20.00 for Contributing Membership, of which \$5.00 goes to the general fund and \$15.00 goes to the Delzie Demaree fund.
- \$100.00 for Life Membership, of which \$5.00 goes to the general fund and \$95.00 goes to the Delzie Demaree fund.

Please send dues to:

Arkansas Native Plant Society  
P.O. Box 250250  
Little Rock, AR 72225

The Dwight Moore Award fund makes awards for outstanding achievements in both research and publications.

The Delzie Demaree fund provides research grants to deserving students of Arkansas Botany.

The Aileen McWilliams Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to promising students of Arkansas Botany. These funds come from direct contributions and from our fall auction.

In addition to the joy of fellowship with people who enjoy our natural heritage, and the personal gain of knowledge of our flora, you can promote the preservation, conservation, and study of wild plants, help educate the public to the value of our native flora and its habitat and the publication of related information.

Please join us at one of the membership

levels that is best for you.

I give my personal thanks to all the officers, board members and others who have made this a most enjoyable and rewarding year.

### Fall Field Trips

9/22/90 - To Bear Mountain in the Ozark National Forest, led by Kent Bonar and Herb Culver. Meet at Nail Store, 10:00 a.m., bring drink and sack lunch. Nail Store is on Highway 16. If you are late, going from the store about 1 1/2 mile west on 16, at the first stop sign on the north side of the road, that's Bear Mountain Road. There will be signs or somebody there to point the way. Wear good hiking shoes - this is pretty rugged territory.

Kent Bonar and Herb Culver are trying to get the area classified as a Research Natural Area. They have documented many unusual species including eight types of orchids, French's Shooting Star, and Yellow Mandarin. At this time the USFS has plans to drastically alter and destroy the habitat through roading and herbicides.

For further information, call 428-5597.

9/29/90 - 4-H facility, Little Rock, led by Carl Hunter. Meet at the 4-H headquarters at Ferncliff at 1:00 p.m. (Slides if it rains.)

10/3/90 - Warren Prairie, Monticello, led by Eric Sundell. Meet at the Warren Prairie sign on Highway 8, two to three miles south of Highway 4 at 9:00 a.m. Call Eric at home for information on directions. If no one calls, we will assume no one is coming.

11/10/90 - Carl Amason's house, meet at Carl's house at 9:30 a.m. Turn left off of Highway 167 at Staple's Store, go to County Road 44 (about half a mile), turn right on County Road 44, go 1 1/4 mile south. Be sure and bring your lunch. Carl's number is 748-2362.

### Other programs of interest to members

10/12/90 - Hot Springs Village, 10:00 a.m.  
(Slides, Carl Hunter)

10/26-28/90 - Mid-South Native Plant  
Conference 1990 at Agricenter  
International, Memphis, TN. Carl Amason,  
Carl Hunter & other ANPS members are on  
the program.

10/10/90 - Woolly Hollow State Park - Carl  
Hunter. Walk at 2:00 p.m.; slides at 5:30  
p.m.

### FALL GENERAL MEETING TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

WHEN: October 19-20, 1990

WHERE: The Narrows Inn on Greer's Ferry  
Lake will be our headquarters.  
The Inn is at Higden, Arkansas,  
on Highway 16 just north of the  
Narrows Bridge on the east side  
of the highway. Twenty rooms are  
being held for us. Phone: 825-  
6246

Rates: \$30.50 - 1 bed, 2 persons  
\$34.50 - 2 people, 2 beds

#### SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY, October 19:

4:00 Registration at the  
Narrows Inn. Be sure to  
bring objects for Saturday  
night's auction. Look  
over and sign up for field  
trips.

6:30 Dinner at Narrows Inn.  
This is on your own.  
There are other places in  
the area to eat if you  
wish.

7:30 Program, Narrows Inn  
dining room. Charles  
Garner - Greers Ferry  
Resident Engineer  
Don Culwell - Roadside  
Wildflowers

SATURDAY, October 20:

Breakfast is on your own.

8:00 Field Trips - meet at  
Narrows Inn.

6:30 Buffet Dinner at Narrows -  
\$8.50 per person, which  
includes tip and tax

7:30 General business meeting  
and election of officers

8:30 AUCTION - NARROWS INN  
DINING ROOM

SUNDAY, October 21:

8:00 Field trip

### ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE AREA

#### CAMPING

##### Corps of Engineers Parks

All are first come, first served, \$5.00  
per night, \$8.00 with electricity.

Devil's Fork Campground - 32 sites

Narrows Park - Higden - very close to the  
Narrows Inn

##### Shiloh Park

#### OTHER MOTELS

Red Bird Inn - Highway 16, south of  
Edgemont Bridge. Ten rooms, 5 cottages.  
Phone: 825-6256

Rates: \$30.00 - 2 double beds  
\$37.00 - Kitchenettes w/2 dbl beds  
\$42.00 - 2/bedroom cottages with 3  
double beds - \$42.00

Lakefront Lodge, Edgemont, Arkansas, near  
Edgemont Bridge on Hwy 16, north of  
Narrows. Phone: 723-4243

Rates: \$32.00 - Two double beds  
\$34.00 - Kitchenette, 2 dbl beds,  
2-burner stove and  
refrigerator  
\$36.00 - Efficiency - 2 dbl beds,  
4-burner stove and oven,  
full cabinets,  
refrigerator-freezer



Ozark Inn, Higden, Arkansas, just south of  
Narrows Bridge.

Phone: 825-6607

Rates: \$32.00 - One person, 1 double bed  
\$32.00 - Two persons, 1 dbl bed  
\$33.00 - Two persons, 2 dbl beds

#### RESTAURANTS IN THE AREA:

Lakefront Lodge

Vee's Logcabin Barbecue - on hill east  
side of Highway 16, Edgemont, south of  
Lakefront Lodge. Has good barbecue.

#### MINUTES OF SPRING MEETING THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY April 28, 1990

The business meeting of the Spring  
General Membership meeting of the Arkansas  
Native Plant Society was called to order  
by Bruce Ewing, President.

Chad Gray gave the treasurer's report.  
He reported a balance of \$11,233.81 in  
total funds.

The President reported the  
recommendation of the Executive Board that  
\$1200 be transferred from the general fund  
into the Delzie Demaree Award Fund. It  
was moved by Carl Amason and seconded by  
Albert Higginbottom that this be done.  
The motion carried.

The President announced the findings of  
Carl Hunter, who did research on the cost  
of a color brochure for the ANPS. The  
cost would be \$1,735.00 for 5,000 copies  
of a color brochure. The cost for 10,000  
copies of a black and white brochure would  
be \$500. The Executive Board recommended  
that the ANPS spend \$500 for 10,000 copies  
of a brochure to be printed on colored  
paper. Thera Lou Adams moved this  
recommendation. It was seconded by Carl  
Amason. The motion carried.

The fall meeting will be at The Narrows  
Inn near Greers Ferry on October 19, 20,  
21 instead of Eureka Springs on November  
2, 3, 4 as first planned. The field trips  
for the spring meeting will be at the  
Hobbs Estate, with housing nearby.

Carl Hunter was presented with the  
Dwight Moore Award, which is given for  
outstanding achievements in both research  
and publications of Arkansas Botany. His

book, Trees, Shrubs, and Vines of  
Arkansas, was recently published. He was  
presented with a check for \$100, which he  
returned with the request that it be used  
for either the Delzie Demaree Fund or the  
Dwight Moore Fund.

New members of the ANPS were introduced  
by Sue Clark. Judy Lacefield was  
introduced as a new life member.

Attention was brought to books by  
members. Carl Hunter is the author of two  
books, Wildflowers of Arkansas, and Trees,  
Shrubs, and Vines of Arkansas. Henry  
Robison has published Fishes of Arkansas.  
His book, Amphibians and Reptiles of  
Arkansas, will possibly be published next  
year.

The President announced that Susan  
Hooks is the new botanist for the USFS in  
the Ouachita National Forest.

Carl Amason announced that a Native  
Plant Conference will be held in Ruston,  
Louisiana, June 7, 8, 9. He also  
announced the spring field trips, which  
will be held in Lewisville on April 21,  
Meadowcreek Project at Fox on May 5, Mena  
on May 12, and Calion on June 9.

The President acknowledged the hosts  
for the Camden meeting -- Thera Lou Adams,  
Nadine Abbott, Glynis Hamlin, and others --  
and expressed appreciation for their  
efforts.

It was announced that on Sunday there  
would be a yard tour, coffee, and rolls at  
the home of Thera Lou Adams from 8:00 to  
9:00 a.m., and a field trip to Poison  
Springs Trail beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.  
It was followed by a slide show on  
Roadside Wildflowers by Carl Hunter.

-- Betty Speairs, Secretary

#### Letters to the Editor:

I am hoping that your members may be  
able to help me. I am a professional  
plant breeder and I am trying to locate  
fresh seed of the WILD AMERICAN PASSION  
VINE (Passiflora Incarnata), also known as  
the MAY POP. Because your members are  
very knowledgeable about the native  
Arkansas flora, I was hoping that some of  
them could collect ripe fruits for me  
later on in the summer. Please let me  
know if you would be able to pass my



request on to your membership. I am trying to obtain samples from across the State of Arkansas so that I can sample the genetic variation. I thank you for your time and I hope you will be able to assist me. If you can suggest any other possible collectors for this seed, please offer me their names.

Kindest regards,  
Frank C. Moser (Plant Breeder)  
2121 Hamilton, Alva, FL 33920

#### **An Account of the Field Trip in Lafayette County at Lewisville - by Carl Amason**

The CLAYTONIA notice read: "April 21: meet at the court-house in Lewisville at 10:00 AM to see Halesia diptera, two winged silver bell, rediscovered after the absence of a confirmed report since 1882. Also, see Sebastian brush and blue hawthorne." I could hardly wait!

The Saturday morning began clear, partly cloudy and pleasant, but weather reports told of heavy rains and flash floods in Central Arkansas. I drove west on US 82, and saw only very scattered bits of remnants of the Coreopsis lanceolata that used to line the highway to Magnolia. Through Magnolia and Columbia County the highway had been sprayed with a herbicide and from Stamps to Bayou Dorcheat, both sides of the highway had been sprayed. I did see one wet area, just out of the right-of-way, that had a pretty population of Iris virginica.

I got to the Lafayette County Courthouse early and found a veterinarian giving rabies shots to dogs which were bought there at the appointed hour. Just before 10 AM, Ray Erickson arrived, with his wife, and the news that several people, including Sue Clark, had called. Heavy rains had made it impractical for them to attend. It was soon obvious that I was the only field trip participant, so Ray took his wife home, and away the two of us went. I got a private botanical tour of the central part of the county. It was not really dry, nor was it really wet underfoot, so the terrain was in splendid condition. The Lafayette County Jack-in-the pulpits were just like those in Union County, having dark purplish parallel lines inside the spathe. There

were many cinnamon, royal, sensitive and netted chain ferns. At one of the first destinations, Eric came to a stand of silky willow which sent me to Dr. Smith's ATLAS. If it is silky willow, Eric should get a specimen to Dr. Smith because he has only a single county (Fulton in North Arkansas) with a record.

I was unfamiliar with this willow, Salix sericea which is whitish under the leaf. Later, we did see much of the sand bar willow (Salix exegua) in the Red River valley. We saw several clumps of the blue hawthorne (Crataegus brachyacanthus) without really leaving the truck. The tall mature tree has an Oriental quality about its structure which makes it a good horticultural subject; they usually occurred in little groups, or groves as we would say in central Texas a mott. The Sebastian bush is a small evergreen shrublet of the Euphorbia Family and is unique.

Did we find the rediscovered Halesia diptera? You bet we did! The mature tree had several trunks at least 4 inches in diameter, height about 25 feet, with a spread of pendulous limbs, probably over 30 feet. It was elegant even in the woods with an understory of weeds and shrubs and a road close by, complete with a road ditch. There were only one or two silver bell blossoms left on the tree, but it was a moment to remember. What does the Halesia diptera have in common with the zoological order of insects that includes house flies, mosquitoes, other flies and gnats? Why, they have only two wings, which is exactly what diptera means in classical greek. Of the Halesia, it is the large woody seed which has two wings.

One of the most pleasant surprises for me were several roadside populations of Thalictrum, which species I do not know as Smith's ATLAS does not have those tall (over 4 feet) meadow ones growing in South Arkansas. Again, Ray, send some specimens to Dr. Smith. On our ride in central Lafayette County we saw these four Baptista species, (1) leucantha, with tall white spires, (2) B. bracteata (leucophaea) with creamy outwardly pointing clusters of flowers, (3) B. mettalliana and (4) B. sphaerocarpa. I shall always be grateful for Ray



Erickson for giving me a private field trip about Lewisville. He is very knowledgeable, enthusiastic and young. We can expect a great future from this young man as he is in a rather unique area of the state where the red alkaline Permian Basin soil has washed down in the Red River Valley bringing West Texas and Oklahoma species with it, naturalizing exotic lime-loving plants, overlapping Texas and Louisiana species and of course, a few unique particles of the Arkansas flora throughout it. Ray even tells me of the mesquite tree in Arkansas. And, like Rick Mountain, "I always want to return at almost any season." Thank you, Ray!

### **Some Summer Impressions of the Spring Meeting - by Carl Amason**

Those planning a convention and meeting begin with great enthusiasm and greater expectations. But, as the date approaches, those feelings evaporate like a light rain on a hot summer's day or disappear like some ghost of many years past. Things happen, conditions develop and some of the most unexpected things occur, but as ones in show business always say, "the show must go on."

The Camden meeting of the Arkansas Native Plant Society on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of April was a wonderful success for the simple reasons that the weather cooperated, the wildflowers were there, and a captive audience attended. One always worries about the weather, but the rains that fell came in just the right amount and at the proper time as to give no problems at all, although heavy rains did fall to the north of Camden.

Nadine Abbott, one of the host committee and a tour leader, was somewhat perturbed; the crown jewel of her tour, a big city block of Phlox drummondii in Bluff City, was mowed down the day before! Thera Lou Adams, another leader, was in the situation of her husband having to go to the hospital during the field trip. However, Jason Anders kept his happy-go-lucky attitude and the crowd was eager to see the countryside. Things certainly did go well for a successful meeting.

We began on Friday afternoon with one field trip organized for that time close

to both Thera Lou's and Nadine's residences. The grandest impression of the meeting still lingers in the small rich bottomland of a small creek where there are some yellow lady-slippers in all the regal splendor of spring flowering beauty. For some it was a first time to see them, for others it was another one of those rarely seen woodland treasures, so easily hiked to see. In the same general area were small bellwort (Uvularia sessilifolia), several species of fairly common ferns and the entire forest floor was covered with blooming partridge berry (Mitchella repens). Its presence caused a spontaneous conference between Bruce and Lana Ewing and Dr. Eric Sundell, the subject of the matter being that Mitchella repens was one of those perfect flowering plants that is termed heterostyly, where the style (female part of the perfect flowers) have styles, on the same plant, with different lengths from those on other plants. At the same time, those plants that have flowers with enlarged stigma (style) have small stamens (male parts) and those which have small stigma have large stamens. Only cross pollination between the two plants of flowers will produce fruit (berries). The flowers are born in pairs, and each pair of flowers will produce one fruit with two flowering scars. And the berries will take two years to mature so it is possible to have flowers and ripe red berries at the same time. The flower petals are extremely rough and are very fragrant. All in all, Mitchella repens can be a first-class garden plant. Enough said about a common wildflower with extraordinary attributes. On to Dr. Guthrie's place to see the silky camellia. In Arkansas, it is known only from several locations about Camden.

Saturday morning broke with cheering sunshine after a night of thunder and lightning with just enough rain to settle what little dust that had formed. The conventioners were divided into three field trip groups, one going directly to the sand hill area of Chidester and Bluff City led by Nadine Abbott; another through the backwoods via the Indian Mound and coming back in at Chidester in the sand hills led by Thera Lou Adams; and the third group south of town, led by



Jason Anders.

I went with Jason; the first stop was at the entrance to Mr. Davis' residence. Along the driveway we had ample time to study Magnolia tripetala and Magnolia virginiana. Magnolia tripetala (umbrella magnolia) is fairly common in the Ouachita Mountains and Boston Mountains of the Ozarks, but is rare on the Coastal Plains, while Magnolia virginiana is a characteristic Coastal Plain tree, found near the headwaters and flowing streams and springs.

The next stop was at the Fisher's Place, on the old El Dorado highway on a deep sandy hill. The grounds were literally a Persian carpet of Phlox drummondii in full bloom, and no two flowering plants had identical colorations of the flowers, from pure white, shades of pink to rose, red and cerise. Then we went on to Elliott, to the home and grounds of Mrs. Donie Thomas, who has a wide range of trees, shrubs, aquatic plants and wildflowers. Here we could stroll, smell the flowers of Magnolia tripetala (they stink!), and admire a beautiful clump of yellow lady-slippers, many ferns, and many unexpected plants tucked into her wide ranging garden. What she doesn't know scientifically was more than made up for in her enthusiasm.

We became aware of hunger as it was lunch time, so everyone headed back to Camden to eat. At the motel, everyone congregated and a small delegation of the Louisiana Native Plant from the Shreveport area surfaced. The participants of the two sand hill field trips were all aglow with talk of Arkansas oaks, blue-jack oaks, Penstemon murrayanus, Matelea decipiens, Selaginella riddellii, Hymenopappus artemissaefolius, and other sand hill specialties. In the afternoon the trips were all repeated. I can remember well introducing to Dr. Kathleen Hall and her daughter the sensations of the tongue and mouth of the tooth-ache tree (Lanthoxylum clavaheraleis) which was in the Phlox drummondii area. Also present in all the field trip areas were flowering plants of the feared and respected Cnidocarpus texanus, the bull nettle, whose spines can cause a painful whelt, much like that from a wasp. Did

anyone get stung? I doubt it because I heard of no complaints.

The Saturday night banquet dinner was one more happy extended visit. Clemy Moore got to meet Miss Marsha Rowe, the SAU student from Chidester who has done so much work on the South Arkansas Arboretum in El Dorado. Randy Johnson from Pinnacle Mountain State Park made a talk on the Arkansas Arboretum Plans at Pinnacle Mountain. Carl Hunter graciously mentioned the cash award given him by the Dwight Moore Award Fund for his books on Arkansas botanical interests. Greg Cook had his collection of pressed fern specimens and in showing them to Dr. Jim Peck, it developed that Dr. Peck needed specimens of the Azolla from Cabon Lake. Never a dull moment in plant collecting. The Shreveport delegation was fortified with the presence of Mrs. Hilda McEwen of Warren, an old friend of Audubon Society days.

Sunday morning broke clear and sunny again - another good day for a field trip. Members were to meet at the home of Thera Lou Adams, off the Chidester Road. She was in a very hospitable mood and was ably helped by the ex-secretary, Glynis Hamlin, who had moved to Witchita, Kansas and was here with her mother, who lives in Oklahoma. She had passed by something at the Witchita Botanical Garden, which she has joined, just to be with us. How much of Thera Lou's coffee and orange juice was drank and how much of her fancy sweet rolls were consumed I couldn't say; it was a fitting finale to the spring meeting. A stroll through her garden with its mixture of native and exotic was an inspiration to those wishing to do similar things with native plants. Dr. Jim Peck discovered some cultivated tree that had become a pernicious pest species in Florida and Thera Lou destroyed it on the spot.

One more trip was to close out the meeting; a field trip to Poison Spring Battlefield State Park, scene of a Civil War battle. This is just within the sand hills and the state champion blue-jack oak was just down the road. A very pleasant walk on the park's nature walk found us strolling through a small ravine with a spring branch flowing and there were many netted chain ferns and lizards tails. On



and is not well known even if it does have a fairly wide distribution in the state. Then neighbors Flo and Houston Sage (Sage as in Salvia) came. They are the owners of the McCartney Rose (Rosa bracteata) that Carl Hunter photographed for his Trees, Shrubs, and Vines of Arkansas. And then Archalie Harman arrived with her celebrated pound cake.

We walked over the place, and aside from the Alophia drummondii, we took in the site where Thelypteris torresiana appeared out of the blue. And I am happy to report that many sporelings have appeared on the scene. The place is well covered with areas carpeted in Mitchella repens and I had to tell all that the pine tree I purchased years ago as a longleaf pine has turned out to be Pinus x sondereggeri, the natural hybrid between the longleaf pine and the loblolly pine. I am amazed at the reluctance of people newly introduced to the Vaccinium ellottii, the coastal plains "high-bush huckleberry," to taste and sample the berries. They are a highly flavored blueberry, and used to be eagerly sought after by local berry pickers. There are several species of Vaccinium growing here on the place naturally, and I value all of them for their beauty and berries for food and wildlife food. Those Vaccinium species are all fairly common and I would recommend them to any berry or wildlife student. They are V. arboreum, the winter huckleberry or farkleberry or sparkleberry, which can be a valuable horticultural addition to any garden; V. stamineum, the deerberry which is usually described by identification seekers as the flowers look like ballerina tutus; V. fuscum, which grows in damper areas; and V. virgatum, the coastal plains "low bush huckleberry."

After a rest, we went in a small caravan. One of the most distinctive plants of the area, the Cherokee bean (Mamou of Louisiana) was late and sparse in coming into bloom, but at the last moment of the day before, I found some in full bloom at the Camp Fire Girls Cabin on Calion Lake. Yes, indeed, there were several red and striking tall flowering stems of Erythrina herbacea in the wild, along with some shrubby Hypericum which I

haven't identified yet. In the margins of Calion Lake are plenty of bald cypresses (Taxodium distichum) and water tupelo grass (Nyssa aquatica) and on the roadbanks were flowering pickleweeds (Pontederia cordata) and in the sunny open water, Nymphaea odorata were blooming like floating magnolia blossoms. We looked for and found Clematis crispa, very common about Calion in quite a range of colors. Ilea virginica and Cephalanthus occidentalis were studied in contrast and in habitat similarities. Only the pressures of time caused the cessation of the field trip and from all the happy comments, I believe everyone enjoyed and learned something on the field trip. I know it was a great pleasure for me to lead it.



the trail, much to my surprise were several chinkapin trees and the usual understory trees of flowering dogwood. A lot of Aristolochia reticulaton were in the sandy soil. This is one of the small perennial Dutchman's pipe vine's relatives, that grows about 6 to 8 inches tall and has brownish-purple flowers under the leafmold. It was coming into bloom. At the end of the circuitous trail was a nice specimen of an Arkansas Oak.

Finally, back at the visitors' pavillion, we met and lingered as we wished this wonderful experience could last forever. We all got into our automobiles and went our way. But for me, the flavor was to linger as Lois Wilson of Joiner, Arkansa and Larry Wilson, no relation, both of the Nature Center in Memphis, followed me home to "see my place." I hope they were not disappointed as I haven't really been able in two years to do any real work on the place. But that is another story.

Some final notes on the Camden spring meeting at this time. I asked several about their single most pleasant moments. For Bill Shepard, it was the entire flora of the Bluff City "Dumpyard." For Dr. Jewel Moore, it was also the same place with two very uncommon and rare composites: Evax candida and Hymenopappus artemisaefoluis in the same spot. Dr. Sundell's most memorable moments were the yellow ladies slippers and the many Matelia deciepeus or climbing milkweeds. Edith and Harry Bartholomew were in a state of ecstasy on finding the carpet of Phlox drummondii on their own, south of Camden. The Louisiana visitors were genuinely surprised at the open friendliness of everyone. Favorable remarks were common and I could go on and on; everyone agreed it was a wonderful meeting. And me? Oh fickle me, "I loved every moment, everybody and every plant."

#### **An Account of the Field Trip Near Calion on 9 June 1990 - by Carl Amason**

June heralds the beginning of summer, and the summer-like weather truly begins here in early June. But the weather was sunny and while previously fallen rains had left plenty of surface moisture in the

soil, it was dry underfoot. It was not a bad day to have a field trip and there are two native plants that make for an interesting field trip in this area.

First is Alophia drummondii, a member of the Iris Family. I am fortunate in having several nice colonies here on my place, including a group at the very front gate. There were some in bloom and as they are morning flowers, the spot, situation, and flowers in bloom created a good place for the field trippers to congregate, meet, talk, admire, and to begin the trip.

First to arrive was Cindy Ross from Little Rock -- the one who had the farthest to travel was the first to arrive. She had problems because the bridge between my place and Colion, at the lake, was washed out to a dangerous condition; but she, as well as the others, made a little detour through the countryside to get here. Cindy was soon met by her good friend, Alice Andrews of El Dorado. It is a small world; Alice's father, although a few years older than I am, was a student at the small country school, Quinn, where we knew each other years ago. A neighbor, less than a mile away, came and joined the Society, with eagerness and great expectation, and even though Evelyn Lloyd had to leave before lunch, she seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed the outing. Then a small delegation from Camden arrived; they were D. W. Daniel and his budding young field tripper, Will Daniel, with Greg Robertson. They had been with the Society some at its spring meeting in Camden and they were so impressed with the group and its activities that they came for more experiences and had many very good comments to add to the current field trip. They own some properties in Ouachita County, near Chidester in the sand hill areas, that made for an outstanding spring meeting. They asked about several plants and one of which has to be Polygonella americana, common name jointweed, another common name that I dislike heartily because this "weed" can be a most attractive, pleasing and interesting wildflower in and out of bloom. This is the "heath" of Heathcliff of Rich Mountain! It blooms late in the season